Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~-2~~, wherein (c) is an aliphatic dicarboxylic acid having 5 to 18 carbon atoms.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~-2~~, wherein the polyfunctional alcohol is a polyol of formula R(OH)n where n is an integer which ranges from 1 to 10 and R is a hydrocarbon chain of 2 to 15 carbon atoms where the polyol is of molecular weight in the range from 50 to 650.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~-2~~, wherein the resultant ester has a kinematic viscosity at 100 °C of 900 to 4000 mm^2/s.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~-2~~, wherein the resultant ester has an NPI value of at least 900.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~-2~~, wherein the resultant ester has an average molecular weight of at least 3000.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~-2~~, wherein the ~~antiwear additive system~~ engine oil further comprises a phosphorus-containing and/or sulphur-containing antiwear additive.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~, 9~~ wherein the ~~further antiwear additive is~~ engine oil further comprises both a phosphorus-containing and sulphur-containing additive.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15~~, 9~~ wherein the ~~futher antiwear additive is~~ engine oil further comprises zinc dialkyl dithiophosphate.

12-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing wear in an automotive engine by the addition of an automotive engine oil comprising a base oil and an ester which is the reaction product of

(a) at least one polyfunctional alcohol;

(b) a dimer fatty acid having a dimer content of greater than 94% by weight; and

(c) optionally at least one of an aliphatic dicarboxylic acid having 5 to 18 carbon atoms, an aliphatic monocarboxylic acid having 5 to 24 carbon atoms and an aliphatic monofunctional alcohol having 5 to 24 carbon atoms;

wherein the resultant ester has a kinematic viscosity at 100 °C ranging from 500 to 5000 mm^2/s and a non-polarity index (NPI)

$$NPI = \frac{\text{total number of carbon atoms x molecular weight}}{\text{number of carboxylate groups x 100}}$$

of at least 500; and

wherein the automotive engine oil has a phosphorus level of no more than 0.08%.

16-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing wear in an automotive engine by the addition of an automotive engine oil comprising a base oil and an ester which is the reaction product of:

(a) at least one polyfunctional alcohol;

(b) a dimer fatty acid; and

(c) at least an aliphatic dicarboxylic acid having 5 to 18 carbon atoms;

wherein the resultant ester having a kinematic viscosity at 100 °C ranging from 500 to 5000 mm^2/s and a non-polarity index (NPI)

$$NPI = \frac{\text{total number of carbon atoms x molecular weight}}{\text{number of carboxylate groups x 100}}$$

of at least 500; and

wherein the automotive engine oil has a phosphorus level of no more than 0.08%.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~automotive engine oil~~ method of claim 15 ~~2~~, wherein the at least one polyfunctional alcohol is neopentylglycol; and the component (c) is azeleic acid.